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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/574,601	04/04/2006	Roman Arnet	UF-P276USw (432633-050)	4190
46188	7590	04/01/2009	EXAMINER	
Nixon Peabody LLP 200 Page Mill Road Palo Alto, CA 94306			SANDERS, JAMES M	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1791	
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			04/01/2009	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/574,601	Applicant(s) ARNET ET AL.	
	Examiner JAMES SANDERS	Art Unit 1791	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 January 2009.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 3 and 6-13 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-2, 4-5 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 11 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 04 April 2006 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>4/4/06, 1/22/07</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. The restriction requirement is withdrawn.

Specification

2. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: [0011] of the Specification recites "force on the passive side of the front is shell mold", which appears to be a misstatement of "force on the passive side of the front shell mold"; [0033] recites "The height H_1 is determined that the reference position of the passive side of the front shell mold 2 has." which is incomprehensible; and [0059] recites "During the separation process or the course of the interface 13", which appears to be a misstatement of "During the separation process the course of the interface 13".
3. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Objections

Claim 11 is objected to because of the following informalities: claim 11, ln 1 recites "The deviceaccording" which appears to be a misstatement of "The device according".

4. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made

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to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

7. Claims 1-2 and 4-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Blandin (US 4251474, already of record), and further in view of Martin et al (US 6039899).

For claim 1, Blandin teaches a method for separating a cast lens from a shell mold, the shell mold and the lens forming a composite, the method comprising: pressing a separating tool with a force on the lens (Fig. 3, cl 5 lns 51-55).

Blandin does not teach rotating either the composite so that the separating tool rolls passively on the lens or rotating the separating tool so that the lens rolls passively on the separating tool, and guiding the separating tool along an interface between the lens and the shell mold.

However, in the same field of endeavor pertaining to lens molding, Martin et al teach rotating the separating tool so that the lens rolls passively on the separating tool, and guiding the separating tool along an interface between the lens and the shell mold (Fig. 24, cl 42 ln 58 to cl 43 ln 12). Examiner notes that under a broad interpretation, when

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the separating tool (pry fixture 448) is rotated upward, the composite, which includes the lens, is free to roll some on the separating tool since it is not fixed therein. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Martin et al with those of Blandin for the benefit of increased reproducibility and convenience in performing the de-molding operation.

8. For claim 2, Blandin does not explicitly teach controlling the force according to a profile dependent on an angle of rotation of the shell mold. However, Blandin does teach careful removal to avoid damage to the shell mold (cl 5 lns 43-50) and therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to control the force applied depending upon the angular orientation of the shell mold so as not to cause any damage.

9. For claims 4-5, further regarding the motion of the separating tool taught as obvious by Martin et al above, Martin et al also teach applying a further force to either the shell mold or the lens, wherein the further force is a tensile force that is already built up at the start of the separation process or is built up at least before the lens and the shell mold are completely separated from each other (cl 42 lns 65-68).

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 3 and 6-13 are allowed.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter.

Blandin and Martin et al teach a few very broad elements claimed by applicant in the separation of a cast lens from a shell mold. However, these prior art references do not teach the many other specific elements further claimed by applicant including fixing the

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composite onto a holding device rotatable on an axis of rotation, adjusting a height of a separating tool and applying a force to the separating tool so that the separating tool presses against the lens adjacent to an interface between the shell mold and the lens, and rotating the holding device and continuously adjusting the height of the separating tool so that the separating tool follows a height of the interface according to the actual angle of rotation, etc. Further, Blandin and Martin et al do not teach the specific elements of the apparatus claimed for carrying out such a detailed method. Finally, no other prior art was found to show the more specific elements of the claimed methods or apparatus.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JAMES SANDERS whose telephone number is 571-270-7007. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, 8 AM to 5 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph Del Sole can be reached on 571-272-1130. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

JMS

/Joseph S. Del Sole/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1791